

**Remarks**

Claims 1-7 and 9-15 are pending in the application. Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1-7 and 9-15 stand rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Fadavi-Ardekani (US 6,189,076) (hereafter, "Fad"). Of these, claims 1-7 and 9-15 remain pending.

Each of independent claim 1, 7, 9 and 13 has been amended to recite, in one form or another, a transmission line to drive a clock signal of a selected bus master to a memory array, where the transmission line is paired with a corresponding respective control input to select or de-select the transmission line. Fad cannot meet this limitation. It is noted that the inactivation signal 116 of Fad is cited as corresponding to the claimed control inputs. However, inactivation signal 116 of Fad is not the equivalent of the claimed control inputs. The inactivation signal 116 activates/inactivates the clock switch 118 as a whole during a period of arbitration (i.e., no clock signals are output); it does not select a clock input as recited in the present claims. See Fad, col. 6, lines 28-46.

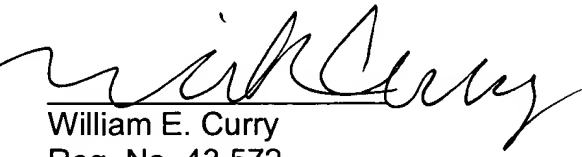
In view of the above, Fad cannot support the asserted rejection under 35 USC 102(e). Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7 and 9-15 is therefore respectfully requested.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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